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19 August 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR: Senior Interagency Group (Intelligence)

FROM:

Executive Secretary, Senior Interagency Group (Intelligence)

SUBJECT: Background Material for Meeting on 31 August 1982

1. The meeting originally scheduled for 26 August for which an agenda was circulated on 11 August has been rescheduled to 31 August at 1400 hours in the White House Situation Room. The agenda will remain the same for the meeting, which the DCI will chair.

2. The attached material is forwarded to assist your preparation for the meeting.

Agenda Item 1 - National Intelligence Topics:

Material is contained in Tabs A - D for this first agenda item. The DCI is interested in your views on the new list of NITs of current interest (Tab B) and the revised NITs of continuing interest (Tab C) that were agreed to by the Interagency Group (Intelligence) on 28 July 1982.

The purpose of the NITs and the NIT process, particularly the most useful form of responses to the questions related to each current NIT, will also be discussed at the meeting.

Agenda Item 2 - NFIP Budget Forecast:

Material for this second agenda item is contained in Tabs E and F. Tab E contains the budget forecast which was discussed at the National Foreign Intelligence Council meeting on 10 August 1982. Tab F contains the amended guidance levels which were issued to program managers by the Acting Director of Central Intelligence following the NFIC meeting.

The DCI will want to discuss your target-topic and generic priorities recognizing that because the funding wedge we had anticipated for FY 84 has been eroded, the Community will be inhibited from beginning any new initiatives unless trade-offs are made or new money found.



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Attachments:

Tabs A - F

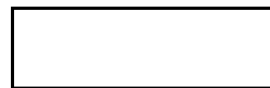
(Tab B -)

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UNCLASSIFIED WHEN ATTACHMENTS ARE REMOVED

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ATTACHMENTS CONTAIN CODEWORD MATERIAL

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PROPOSED AGENDA FOR SIG(I) MEETING

- I. Concurrence on NITs of Current Interest (TAB B)
- II. Concurrence on NITs of Continuing Interest (TAB C)
- III. Concurrence on Proposed Restatement of the Purpose of the NITs (TAB D)
- IV. Review of NIT Process and Procedures
 - A. Examination of the Value of 1981 Community Responses to NITs of Current Interest
 - B. Consideration of Future Changes to the NITs of Continuing Interest

B

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TAB B

SUMMARY OF NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE TOPICS OF CURRENT INTEREST

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USSR	
Soviet Foreign and Economic Policy.....	1
Soviet Military Policy and Capabilities.....	3
Soviet Intelligence Policy and Activities....	5
EASTERN EUROPE.....	6
WESTERN EUROPE.....	7
EAST ASIA.....	8
NEAR EAST, SOUTH ASIA.....	9
AFRICA.....	10
LATIN AMERICA.....	11
GLOBAL ISSUES	
International Trade and Finance.....	12
International Energy.....	12
Nuclear Proliferation.....	13
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TAB D

PROPOSED RESTATEMENT OF THE PURPOSE OF THE NITs

(To Be Contained in Foreword of NIT Document Issued by DCI)

FOREWARD

This document contains the National Intelligence Topics (NITs) that were developed at my request from recommendations made by senior members of the US foreign policy community and concurred in by the Senior Interagency Group - Intelligence as requirements and priorities for use by the intelligence agencies of the US Government.

There are two types of NITs. The Topics of Current Interest serve as a forum for policymakers to inform intelligence collectors and producers of their critical needs for information and analysis and are intended to keep the intelligence effort focused on those countries and issues of greatest concern to the policymakers over the next nine to 12 months. The Topics of Current Interest, in addition to being narrowly focused and of immediate policy concern, should generally address only those substantive issue for which added emphasis is needed in the short term.

Concerns over issues that are regularly monitored and reported on by the Intelligence Community should be reflected in the NITs of Continuing Interest either by adding to or modifying existing items or by changing assigned priorities. These NITs provide the Intelligence Community with general guidance on issues that senior policymakers believe will be of greatest importance to US interests over the longer term. The topics provide guidance to production managers for the development of intelligence capabilities (e.g., building data bases, enhancing analytical resources) over the longer term. They also serve as a mechanism by which consumers can, on an annual basis, effect changes in the priorities of topical categories in the attachment to DCID 1/2. Accordingly, the definitions of the priorities in the NITs of Continuing Interest are the same as those in the DCID 1/2 attachment. The priority definitions are:

- 1 - Intelligence **vital** to US national survival;
- 2 - Intelligence of **critical importance** to US political, economic, and military interests;
- 3 - Intelligence of **major importance** to US political, economic, and military interests;
- 4 - Intelligence of **considerable importance** to US political, economic, and military interests;
- 5 - Intelligence of **moderate importance** to US political, economic, and military interests;
- 6 - Intelligence of **some importance** to US political, economic, and military interests;
- 7 - Intelligence of **interest** for US political, economic, and military policy planning and execution.

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